

# SC 243 Access to controls for closing of ventilation of vehicle, special category and ro-ro spaces (SOLAS II-2/20.3.1.4.1)

(Mar 2011)  
(Rev.1  
May 2012)

## Regulations

SOLAS Ch. II-2 Reg. 20.3.1.4.1

*Arrangements shall be provided to permit a rapid shutdown and effective closure of the ventilation system from outside of the space in case of fire, taking into account the weather and sea conditions.*

## Interpretation

Access routes to the controls for closure of the ventilation system "permit a rapid shutdown" and adequately "take into account the weather and sea conditions" if the routes:

- are clearly marked and at least 600 mm clear width;
- are provided with a single handrail or wire rope lifeline not less than 10 mm in diameter, supported by stanchions not more than 10 m apart in way of any route which involves traversing a deck exposed to weather; and
- are fitted with appropriate means of access (such as ladders or steps) to the closing devices of ventilators located in high positions (i.e. 1.8 m and above).

Alternatively, remote closing and position indicator arrangements from the bridge or a fire control station for those ventilator closures is acceptable.

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## Notes:

1. This Unified Interpretation is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Societies on ships contracted for construction on or after 1 January 2012.
2. Rev.1 is to be uniformly implemented by IACS Societies on ships contracted for construction on or after 1 January 2013.
23. The "contracted for construction" date means the date on which the contract to build the vessel is signed between the prospective owner and the shipbuilder. For further details regarding the date of "contract for construction", refer to IACS Procedural Requirement (PR) No. 29.

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